

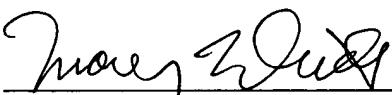
REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. After claim additions, cancellations and amendments herein, claims 1-17 will be pending in this application.

This application is a national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application No. PCT/JP04/000605. By virtue of this amendment, the claims have been amended in order to conform the application to proper U.S. Patent and Trademark Office practice and new claims have been submitted, all in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that the Applicants regard as the invention. No new matter has been added to the text of the international application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims presented are patentable. An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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